NOTE V.

ON A COLLECTION OF HELOTIDAE FROM KURSEONG[1])

BY

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Mr. René Oberthür of Rennes has received from his friend the R. P. Bretaudeau an interesting lot of *Helotidae* brought together in the environs of Kurseong. This lot, sent to me for identification by Mr. Oberthür, contains the following species:

Fairmairei Rits., several examples of both sexes.

Desgodinsi Rits., a single female described in this Note.

attenuata n. sp., two female specimens, described in this Note.

laevigata Oberth., two female specimens.

Severini Rits., two female specimens.

Boysi Rits., several examples of both sexes described in this Note.

Bretaudeaui n. sp., several examples of both sexes, described in this Note.

fulvitarsis Rits., several examples of both sexes.

Helota Desgodinsi Rits. ♀.

Agreeing with the ♂ [2]), but the anterior tibiae but very slightly curved, the apices of the elytra pointed, the

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1) In my enumeration of the *Helota*-species known from Sikkim and Darjeeling (Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XV, 1893, p. 140), I erroneously indicated Kurseong as situated in Sikkim. It lays, however, in the adjacent district Darjeeling.

2) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XV, 1893, p. 131.

middle of the metasternum without pubescence, and the apical ventral segment flattened behind and broadly truncate, the margin of the truncation slightly thickened except in the middle; a few large hair-bearing punctures are present on the flattened portion laterally.

A single specimen. — The unique known male specimen of this species, which was found in the environs of Pedong in Sikkim (Desgodins), likewise belongs to Mr. Oberthür.

Helota attenuata, n. sp. ♀.

Closely allied to *Helota rotundata* Rits. from Burma[1]), but the shape of the new species is less parallel: it is broader in the shoulders and more attenuated anteriorly and posteriorly; the prothorax is decidedly more transverse and its sides are more strongly curved, the anterior angles less prominent and less rounded, and the pronotum is more strongly punctured; moreover the elytral epipleurae, which are dark bronze in *rotundata*, are reddish testaceous in the new species.

Length 9 mm. — Subshining; above dark bronze with purplish tinges especially on the head and pronotum; the two basal joints of the antennae reddish (the scape with a fuscous spot in front), the following joints pitchy brown, the club darkest; the anterior angles of the pronotum narrowly edged with fulvous, the scutellum coppery; the elytra provided with two pairs of yellow spots situated between the 3rd and 6th striae and surrounded with bluish black. The colour of the underside (the elytral epipleurae included) is reddish testaceous, with the exception of the dark bronze head (the throat, however, is reddish testaceous); the legs are reddish testaceous, the tip of the femora metallic green, the base and apex of the tibiae as well as the tarsi pitchy with a slight bronze hue.

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1) Ann. Mus. Civ. di Genova, vol. XXX, 1891, p. 891, ♂, and Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XVI, 1894, p. 101, ♀.

Head strongly but rather remotely punctured in the raised middle portion, very closely between the raised portion and the eyes, very minutely on the narrowed front portion.

Prothorax transverse, strongly attenuated in regularly curved sides towards the front margin, the front angles but very slightly prominent, subangular, the sides faintly crenulate, the base deeply bisinuate, the lateral angles acute and slightly directed inwards, the median lobe subtruncate; the upper surface strongly but rather irregularly punctured, the punctures on the middle considerably finer than on the sides, an impunctate spot in front of the scutellum, and on each side of the median lobe an oblique shallow impression provided with large punctures. The scutellum transverse, broadly rounded behind, impunctate but impressed in the middle.

Elytra conspicuously narrowing in straight lines towards the apices which are almost conjointly rounded. Each elytron with ten regular striae of punctures which become slightly larger towards the sides; the interstices are sparsely and most finely punctured, and become slightly costate on the apical portion, especially the 3rd and 9th.

The underside of the head is strongly punctured, the middle of the throat, however, impunctate; on the lateral portions of the prosternum the punctures are rather large, on the sides of the metasternum they are much finer; the middle of the prosternum is finely and sparsely punctured, that of the metasternum impunctate; the abdomen is apparently impunctate in the middle, distinctly punctured, however, on the sides and on the last segment which latter is truncate at the tip with rounded angles. The metallic coloured tip of the femora and the tibiae are distinctly punctured; the anterior tibiae slightly curved.

Two female specimens, one of which is now in the collection of the Leyden Museum.

Helota Boysi Rits. ♂ and ♀.

This species was described by me in 1889 [1] from a single male example belonging to the Oxford Museum. As the present collection contains several specimens of it, males and females, I give here a description of both sexes.

The species is allied to *Helota notata* Rits. from Burma, but it is larger, and more strongly punctured, and has the apices of the elytra otherwise shaped. The male is easily recognizable by the flattened and truncate appendage at the apex of the inner margin of the anterior tibiae.

Length 8—9 mm. — Narrow and elongate, shining; above metallic green with coppery and purple tinges; the antennae testaceous, the two apical joints of the club infuscate; each elytron provided with two flavous spots situated between the 3rd and 7th striae [2] and surrounded with purple. — Underneath the head (except the middle of the throat), the lateral portions of the prosternum and the elytral epipleurae bright golden green, the remaining reddish testaceous; the legs reddish testaceous, with the apex of the femora and the base of the tibiae metallic green; on the tibiae the green colour is slightly prolonged along the outer edge; the tarsi (with the exception of the basal half of the claw-joint) brownish.

Head strongly and densely punctured, the punctures on the middle portion larger and wider apart.

Prothorax trapezoidal, being slightly attenuated in straight lines to the front margin which is likewise straight, the anterior angles broadly rounded, not at all produced; the base deeply bisinuate, the lateral angles acute. The upper surface rather regularly densely covered with large deep punctures, an impunctate longitudinal streak in front of the scutellum. The scutellum broadly rounded behind and impunctate.

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1) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XI, 1889, p. 189.

2) In some individuals the posterior yellow spot is situated between the 3rd and 8th striae.

The elytra nearly parallel, the apices conjointly notched at the suture, forming at the bottom of the notch a minute sutural angle. Each elytron is provided with ten regular striae of deeply impressed punctures which become larger towards the sides; the interstices become costate towards the end, especially the 3rd and 9th.

The under surface of the head (with the exception of the middle of the throat) remotely covered with large punctures; on the metallic lateral portions of the prosternum the punctures are still larger, the pale coloured middle portion is nearly impunctate; the sides of the metasternum are very distinctly punctured; the abdomen is apparently impunctate, with the exception of the apical segment which shows a very fine punctuation and which is truncate behind; the legs are impunctate, the metallic green portions excepted which have a few punctures.

♂. Anterior tibiae slightly curved on the apical half and provided at the apex on the inside with a flattened and truncate black appendage which is directed forward and inward; the basal joints of the anterior tarsi are enlarged and densely covered beneath with a long pale coloured pubescence; the tarsi of the middle and hind legs are very slender and elongate, as long as if not slightly longer than the tibia; the posterior tibiae with a black line along the inner edge of the apical half. The apices of the elytra are conjointly notched at the suture, forming at the bottom of the notch a minute sutural angle on each elytron. The apical ventral segment broadly truncated behind, the lateral angles rounded.

♀. Legs simple, the posterior tibiae without black line on the inner edge. The common sutural notch on the apex of the elytra deeper than in the male, and the apices consequently narrower. The apical ventral segment more narrowly truncated behind than in the male.

Several examples of both sexes.

Obs. The specimens from Kurseong (Braet), Pedong (Desgodins) and Darjeeling (Christie), regarded by me with doubt as the female sex of *Helota Boysi* Rits. ¹), belong to the following species.

Helota Bretaudeaui, n. sp. ♂ and ♀.

This species is closely allied to *Helota dubia* Rits. ²) and *affinis* Rits. ³) from Burma, of which the female sex only is known. Likewise it is allied to *Helota Fryi* Rits. ⁴) from Burma, which species is broader and has the apices of the elytra rounded in both sexes; moreover the fore tibiae of the male are quite differently shaped.

Length 8—9 mm. — Narrow and elongate, shining, above bronze green with coppery tinges, the antennae testaceous, the joints often with a dark spot, the club more or less infuscate; each elytron provided with two flavous spots which are surrounded with purplish and of which the posterior one is unvariably placed between the 3rd and 7th striae; the situation of the anterior spot, however, is somewhat variable: in most of the specimens before me it is placed between the 3rd and 7th striae, in some others it occupies the space between the 4th and 7th striae, whereas in a few specimens the anterior spot on the left elytron is situated between the 4th and 7th, on the right one between the 3rd and 7th striae. — Underneath the head (except the middle of the throat), the lateral portions of the prosternum and the elytral epipleurae golden green, the rest testaceous; the legs are testaceous with the apex of the femora and the basal portion of the tibiae metallic green; on the tibia the green colour is slightly prolonged along the outer edge; the tarsi are dark brown, with the exception of the basal half of the claw-joint which is pale testaceous.

Head deeply and densely, almost rugosely punctured,

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1) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XV, 1893, p. 140.
2) Ann. Mus. Civ. di Genova, vol. XXX, 1891, p. 901.
3) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XIII, 1891, p. 253.
4) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XVI, 1894, p. 101.

the punctures on the middle portion larger and somewhat wider apart.

Prothorax narrowing in straight lines towards the front margin which is straight, the front angles broadly rounded, not at all produced; the base deeply bisinuate, the lateral angles acute; the upper surface regularly densely covered with large deep punctures which leave however an elongate patch in front of the scutellum free. The scutellum is broadly rounded behind and impunctate.

The elytra are slightly narrowing in straight lines towards the apices; each elytron is provided with ten regular striae of deeply impressed punctures which become larger towards the sides; the interstices become more or less costate towards the end, especially the 3rd and 9th.

The under surface is very shining; the head (except the middle of the throat) strongly punctured; the punctures on the metallic coloured lateral portions of the prosternum large and deep, those on the testaceous middle portion minute; on the sides of the metasternum a few fine but distinct punctures are present; the middle of the metasternum and the abdomen impunctate, the apical ventral segment, however, extremely finely punctured; the legs have a few large punctures.

♂. Anterior tibiae distinctly curved, and with a notch on the inside of the apical half; the notch accompanied by a flattened elongate triangular tooth which is directed inwards; the top and the upper margin of this tooth are pitchy; the space between the tooth and the apex of the tibia is widened out, and as well as the tooth itself provided with long colourless hairs; the basal joints of the anterior tarsi are slightly widened out and densely fringed beneath with long colourless hairs; the middle and hind tibiae are faintly constricted on the outer edge of the apical half; the hind tibiae are moreover provided on the inner edge, a little before the apex, with a very minute angular tooth which is preceded by a short black line; the space between the tooth and the apex is finely pubescent.

The apical ventral segment truncate posteriorly. The elytra not prolonged at the end, the apices truncate between the 3rd interstice and the suture.

♀. Legs simple, the apical ventral segment truncate posteriorly, somewhat more narrowly however than in the male. The elytra slightly prolonged, the apices narrower than in the male, and more or less obliquely truncate between the 3rd interstice and the suture.

Several examples of both sexes.

Obs. The specimens from Kurseong (Braet), Pedong (Desgodins) and Darjeeling (Christie), regarded by me with doubt as the female sex of *Helota Boysi* Rits. 1), belong to *Helota Bretaudeaui* Rits.

In a lot of Beetles from Pedong (Desgodins) Mr. Oberthür found a male example of *Helota pustulata* Rits. This sex differs from the female, which has been described by me in the Notes from the Leyden Museum, vol. XV, 1893, p. 133, in having very strongly curved anterior tibiae, and narrowly, conjointly rounded apices to the elytra.

Leyden Museum, December 1893.

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1) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XV, 1893, p. 140.